Objective 5.3.—Promote the restoration and conservation of declining tree species and forest ecosystems. (Addresses key Assessment findings in section 4g and USDA Forest Service national objectives 1.1, 1.2, 2.1, 2.2, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7)

Strategy 5.3.1.—Assess, identify, and emphasize management and conservation strategies that prioritize declining tree species and forest ecosystems.

and forest ecosystems.				
Priority Area(s)	DFR Program Areas	Key Stakeholders and Partners	Resources Needed	Measures of Success
Priority Ecosystems (State Wildlife Action Plan) Forest Legacy "Areas of Need" Conserving Working Forestlands Map Rural Forest Priority Landscape Map	Forest Legacy Forest Stewardship FM FDP TD&P Pest Control SP&A GSB FIA	DENR—DPR, NHP  USFWS  USFS  USDOD  NCWRC  NRCS  FSA  TNC  UNC System  NCCES  NCPFC  NGOs (ex., The Wildlife Society, QU, DU, NWTF, land trusts, NC  Longleaf  Coalition, America's Longleaf  Conservation Plan, Atlantic White Cedar Alliance, American Chestnut Foundation)	Identification of lead individuals and/or organization to improve coordination and collaboration among key stakeholders and partners  Development and implementation of interorganizational MOUs  Funding for training and dedicated personnel to provide technical services related to management of declining tree species and forest ecosystems  Funding for education and outreach (ex. websites, newsletter articles, e-mails, billboards, and radio/television PSAs)  Funding for increased GIS, inventory, and database of specific tree species and forest ecosystems (distribution and abundance)  Funding for state and federal cost-share programs (ex. FDP, CRP, EQIP, WHIP, CREP)  Funding for state and federal initiatives and conservation programs (ex. Wildlife, and conservation programs (ex. Wildlife Conservation Land Program, Partners for Fish/Wildlife Program, NC Conservation Tax Credit)	Number of MOUs established  Development of a regional or statewide strategic conservation plan that identifies key tree species and forest ecosystems in decline  Number of new initiatives developed  Number of priority conservation areas identified with declining tree species and forest ecosystems  Participation and support of new partnerships and collaborative coalitions  Number of acres of declining forest ecosystems restored or managed  Number of new initiatives or action plan efforts developed for specific ecosystems and species in decline  Number of workshops held  Number of participants in workshops  Number of professionals trained  Number of products developed (ex. podcasts, webpages, news articles, posters, brochures, demonstration sites on ESF/SF, and other media)  Number of NCWRC education center visitors